

CLEVELAND ANTI-SLAVERY NETWORK

INITIAL NETWORKING MEETING

THURSDAY 29TH MARCH 2018

CLEVELAND OPCC CONFERENCE ROOM

Attendees

Name	Organisation
Robin Brierley	Chair
Jon Doyle	Stockton Council
Penny Thompson obo Sally Robinson	Hartlepool Council
Rachel Beard	Middlesbrough Council
Kay Dargue	Middlesbrough Council
Karen Agar	TEWV
Wendy Tinkler	Cleveland Police
Louise Parker	Cleveland Police
Martyn Weston	Cleveland Police
Mark Braithwaite obo 4 LSCB Chairs	LSCB Tees VEMT Group
Steven Hume	Stockton Council
Azrini Wahidin	Teesside University
Martin Crow	Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board
Chris Stone	Cleveland Police
Alison Peevor	HAST CCG
Barbara Potter	South Tees Clinical Commissioning
Stephen Kappel	NERSOU
Tracey Brittain	MVDA/SCN
Steve Nelson	Stockton Council
Jack Stokes	VCAS
Rachelle Kipling	OPCC
Ros Pluck obo Barbara Shaw	RCSCB
Barry Coppinger	PCC
Jayne Harpe	OPCC Minute Taker


Apologies

Name	Organisation
Barbara Shaw	Redcar Council
Ian Hayton	Cleveland Fire Brigade
Dave Pickard	LSCB Stockton/Hartlepool
Jo Duffy	Cleveland Police
Helen Watson	Middlesbrough Council
Martin Gray	Stockton Council
Sally Robinson	Hartlepool Council
Janine Hartley	North East Migration Partnership
Georgina Fletcher	RRF
Dave Mead	VCAS
Gemma Sampson	Clewer Initiative
Marion Walker	Middlesbrough Council
Tyla Jones	North East Migration Partnership

Agenda Item		ACTION
1.	<p>Introduction and welcome from Barry Coppinger – PCC</p> <p>The PCC gave an overview of his commitment to tackling Modern Day Slavery and Human Trafficking including the recent commissioning exercise to appoint an Independent Chair and co-ordinator for a Cleveland wide Anti-Slavery Network.</p>	
2.	<p>Introduction from Robin Brierley – Chair</p>	
3.	<p>Introductions including update from each organisation on role and responsibilities in relation to Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking (MSHT) including any known gaps in provision.</p> <p>The Chair asked the group: “If a child or adult was rescued this afternoon, what is your idea of success and what does it look like.”</p> <p>The responses were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety • Liaison with Police • Safety Plan • Liberate Victims • Prosecution <p>Members of the group were asked to update from their organisations perspective in terms of their understanding, progress and gaps in regards to MS/HT.</p> <p>The responses were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treat as individuals and assess needs. • There is a definite gap in expectations from Local Authorities. • No specific process around housing/safety and one LA looking at operational plan with SPOCs. • Gap in frontline workforce. • Increase practitioners’ awareness to what trafficking looks like for correct response. • Police investigate crime, follow on safeguarding, and keep victims supported with a wrap-around service for victims to move forward in their lives. One process is required across 4 Local Authorities with victim care pathways for victims and 	

	<p>witnesses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incidents will increase as awareness raised, lots of knowledge gaps. • Awareness raising for partner agencies. There is an assumption victims will go missing the following day and there is a need to know where to look. • Safeguarding is carried across One Tees Adult Board, there are four Children’s Boards and Tees Strategic VEMT. Chairs have a statutory role to ensure safeguarding. • Unsure what the landscape is when “Lifting the Stone”. • A Tees-wide approach would be preferable. • Teesside University is undertaking research to identify gaps. • Develop guidance and policies to set the tone across four Local Authorities for unified approach. • Communication & Engagement/Campaigns & Events. • Safeguard victims then investigate, disrupt and prosecute. Cleveland Police have a multi-functional team giving 7 day coverage of expertise. Large investigations have impact on police resources. There are obvious gaps in intelligence. Homeless charities are a good source of intelligence. Victims have trust issues when placed in hostels. • CCG have completed a pilot gap analysis within the GP Service and training will be delivered in May, but resources are low as this represents all of Cleveland. A See – Act – Do approach is to be promoted. A&E and midwives will receive training but the emphasis needs to be higher. • Lack of understanding around victims and first responders need to be able to identify victims. Dedicated staffing required. It takes, on average, two years to bring a case to court with support for the victim throughout this time. Senior Police Officers are paying for victim’s accommodation and there have been instances where victims have slept in the front office of the Police station overnight. Police Organised Crime Groups to provide mapping process. Community awareness to be increased as there is a general belief that there is not a problem in this area. • Bridge the link with partnerships and specialised bespoke groups (hard to reach). • Support services to be mapped. • Handling of media and social media. • VCAS has only supported one victim in two years, they have no awareness or training in anti-slavery therefore may be unaware of victim. • Police & Crime Plan to increase awareness with a Cleveland wide strategy to develop and deliver plan. This will give strategic direction to police. 	
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	<p>Chief Constable has responsibility for implementation in Cleveland, plus he has a national responsibility for missing persons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nottingham has key findings from research. • Gaps with National Salvation Army contract. • Knowledge gaps – who are our victims, who are our offenders. • Need for appropriate mental health provision. <p>The Chair asked the group if they were aware of the National Referral Mechanism introduced in 2009 in the UK by the Home Office. It was apparent that some Local Authorities were just getting on board. It is important that information such as changes to Legislation and policy & procedure is disseminated through attendee organisations. There was a short discussion and explanation around when “County Lines” feature. The group also discussed what services the victim comes into contact with prior to rescue. There is the belief that some traffickers may be present with the victim when attending doctor’s appointments etc, which would prevent them from speaking freely. How does this link with the community, where do we need to target and how do we gain trust?</p> <p>It was agreed that a better sharing of information was required and that some structure was required to identify responsibility and governance, i.e. links into VEMT, LSCB, TSAB, CSPs etc.</p>	<p>ACTION RB/RK</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Membership of Cleveland Anti-Slavery Network</p> <p>The group were asked about gaps in membership. Representatives from GLA, Border Agency and DWP were highlighted and efforts would be made to identify and invite.</p>	<p>ACTION Jayne Harpe</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Overview of Cleveland Anti-Slavery Network - Chair</p> <p>The Chair stated that this had been covered during the previous agenda items.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Overview of MSHT in the North East of England – Steve Kappel (Police Transformation Team)</p> <p>SK gave an overview in the North East with a view to understanding what modern slavery looks like in the region. He informed the group that the Modern Day Slavery Act was passed in 2015 and there was a review of the Act in 2016 which brought greater powers and penalties, but provided inconsistencies within policing. The Prime Minister personally chairs the Modern Slavery</p>	

	<p>taskforce, which she sees as a priority and has invested heavily in an effort to tackle the root of the cause.</p> <p>ROCU have lots of co-ordinators and resources to carry out operations, when needed. SK works with Cleveland, Durham & Northumbria forces for consistency and effectiveness and best practice. ROCU visit forces to debrief and advise accordingly. The National database is not accurate as forces report in different ways and work is ongoing to bring a consistent approach. ROCU also have access to a large EUROPOL database with a liaison officer within.</p> <p>The main forms of labour comprise of sexual and criminal exploitation, cannabis farms, nail bars and benefit fraud and it is important to understand the scale and nature. SK links with other co-ordinators which widens the level of information in relation to cleansing of money. SK offered to provide training, if required. SK explained the crossover into County Lines in relation to CSE, Trafficking and sex work. Nationally, there are 568 MSHT investigations ongoing with 22 in the Cleveland area.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Overview of MSHT in Cleveland – Wendy Tinkler - MSHT Lead for Cleveland Police</p> <p>WT delivered a powerpoint presentation in which details of case studies were discussed. A discussion around Sec 45 being used as a defence ensued, especially when victims are located at cannabis farms.</p> <p>Concerns are mainly around finding suitable accommodation in a decent area and the needs of victims as, in one of the case studies, the victim was placed in a privately rented property in an undesirable area and moved the following day due to fear. Another victim was accommodated by the Detective Inspector using their own credit card for payment due to difficulties obtaining suitable accommodation.</p> <p>Whilst there can be a need to move a victim away from their location in order to safeguard this needs to be balanced with the possibility of losing their support network.</p> <p>The NRM (National Referral Mechanism) is a very complex process and a presentation will be on the agenda for the next meeting.</p>	 <p>Power Point for Modern Slavery & Hu</p> <p>ACTION Robin Brierley</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Training/Awareness – What has already taken place and where are the gaps?</p> <p>There is a clear need for training in Cleveland. The LSCB</p>	

	<p>are mandated to provide training and this could incorporate bespoke training.</p> <p>Source who can provide training packages or products and what quality. A questionnaire to be circulated.</p> <p>The North East Migration Partnership have had related training together with training for age assessments.</p>	<p>ACTION Robin Brierley</p>
9.	<p>Information Sharing – What is in place already i.e. Information Sharing Protocols, MS Helpline, Crimestoppers, FIB, 101 etc.</p> <p>Most intelligence is police generated and forwarded to FIB analysts. The group discussed the possibility of advocating a modern slavery helpline or the use of 101.</p> <p>As awareness is raised, more information may be received but partner agencies do not gather intelligence in the way police do and how would this be shared?</p> <p>Department of Work & Pensions have single points of contact in Job Centre Plus. Representative to be identified and invited to join this group.</p>	<p>ACTION Steve Kappel</p>
10.	<p>Victim Care Pathways</p> <p>The group discussed the need for a clear consistent victim care pathway that would be agreed and supported by all agencies across the Cleveland area. It was felt that there is a lack of understanding around victims especially those who are also offending. Their potential complex needs, such as drug / alcohol issues, need to be taken into account in order to safeguard and support effectively. This will be looked at on a future date.</p>	
11.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>A member of the meeting asked if there was a funding stream available to support the work of the network and if so where was this coming from. The PCC highlighted that funding had been committed from him for the Chairing and Co-ordination of the network for 2 years along with admin support. Now the network has established opportunities may arise to enter into funding streams to fund any key pieces of work.</p> <p>What do statutory organisations do, where are the gaps? There is a need to add value to the definite gap within the first 5 days of the victim's rescue i.e. accommodation.</p>	

	<p>There is an industrial strategy fund across four themes which is a Government initiative and could be looked at for funding opportunity</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/industrial-strategy-challenge-fund-joint-research-and-innovation</p>	<p>ACTION Robin Brierley</p>
<p>12.</p>	<p>Time and Date of next meeting</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on 9th May at 1.00pm in the OPCC Conference Room, Cleveland Police HQ, Ladgate Lane, Middlesbrough.</p>	